

What is claimed is:

1. A method for blocking a call to a called line selected by a calling party, said
5 calling party having a calling line identification number, said method comprising:
receiving a communication directed to a called line from a calling line;
obtaining a calling line identification number for said communication;
obtaining a called line identification number for said communication;
10 looking for said calling line identification number in a data store to determine
data associated with said calling line identification number concerning calls from the
calling line to a called line which are to be blocked; and
terminating the call if the data indicates that the call is to be blocked.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising completing the call if the data
15 associated with the calling line identification number does not indicate that calls to the
called line are to be blocked.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising always completing a call to an
emergency call line.
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4. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked
comprises a list of area codes to which calls are to be blocked.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked
25 comprises a list of at least one of a plurality of called line identification numbers of
calls which are to be blocked.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked
comprises all calls.
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7. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked comprises all long distance calls.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked
5 comprises all calls except calls to one of a plurality of specified called line identification numbers.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked comprises all calls except calls to one of a plurality of specified area codes.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be blocked comprises all calls except local calls.

11. A method of activating an outgoing call blocking service, comprising:
15 receiving a predetermined access code from a calling line at a central office associated with the calling line;
prompting a caller to provide data concerning calls to be blocked;
receiving the provided data; and
storing said data in a data store associated with the call blocking service.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
prompting the caller for an authorization code; and
comparing the received authorization code with a stored authorization code for
the calling line identification number.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising activating the service if the received authorization code corresponds to the stored authorization code for the calling line identification number.

14. The method of claim 12, further comprising not activating the service if the received authorization code does not correspond to the stored authorization code for the calling line identification number.

5 15. A method of de-activating an outgoing call blocking service, comprising:
receiving a predetermined access code from a calling line at a central office
associated with the calling line;
prompting a caller for an authorization code;
retrieving a stored authorization code associated with said calling line
10 identification number; and
comparing the received authorization code with the stored authorization code.

15 16. The method of claim 15, further comprising deactivating the service if the received authorization code corresponds to the stored authorization code for the subscriber.

20 17. The method of claim 15, further comprising not deactivating the service if the received authorization code does not correspond to the stored authorization code for the subscriber.

 18. The method of claim 15, further comprising prompting the caller for an authorization code.

25 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising storing said new authorization code in a database.

 20. The method of claim 15, further comprising prompting the caller for data concerning calls to be blocked.

30 21. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
receiving said data: and

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storing said data in a database.

22. A system for blocking a call between a calling line and a called line within a telecommunications network, comprising:

- 5 a service switching point office for receiving an out-going call request from the calling line to a called line;
- a storage device for storing data concerning calls to be blocked; and
- a controller for determining if data concerning a call to the called line corresponds to data concerning calls to be blocked.

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23. The system of claim 22, wherein the controller terminates the call if data concerning a call to the called line corresponds to data concerning calls to be blocked.

24. The system of claim 22, wherein the controller completes the call if data
- 15 concerning a call to the called line does not correspond to data concerning calls to be blocked.

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